Volume 49, No. 1, January 1990

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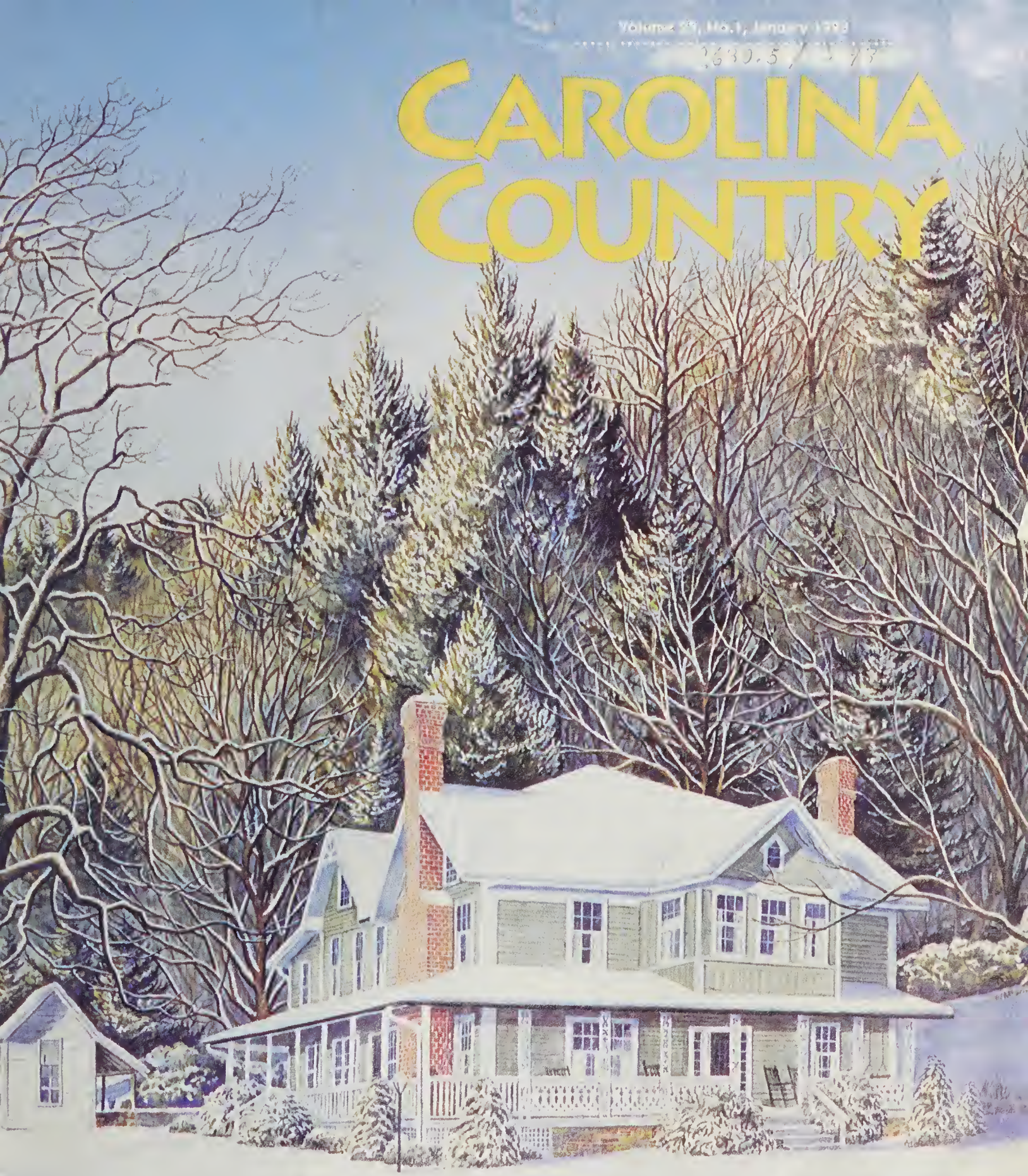
CAROLINA COUNTRY



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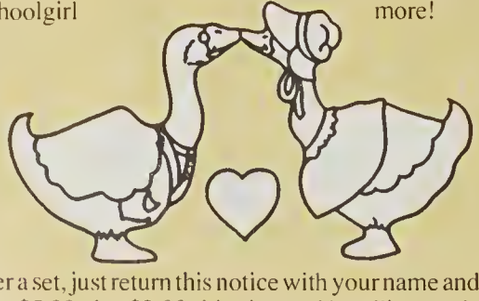

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- Bunnies for Easter, rabbits to hang on the wall.
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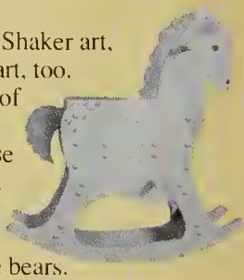

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Carolina Electric Cooperatives

Carolina Electric Cooperatives provides reliable and safe electric power to more than 1.6 million North Carolinians served by the state's 28 nonprofit, consumer-owned electric cooperatives. *Carolina Country* publishes information on issues of interest to co-op consumer-members who live and work in more than 600,000 homes, farms and businesses in 95 of North Carolina's 100 counties.

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CAROLINA COUNTRY

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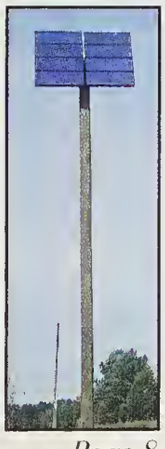
The nation's electric co-ops hope Bill Clinton and Al Gore remember their rural roots when they take the reigns of government January 20.



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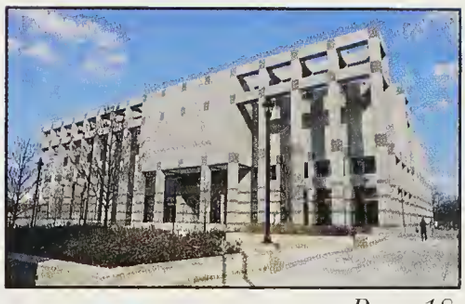
A promising technology on the horizon is photovoltaics, a system that converts sunlight into electricity. Utilities are taking a closer look at the sun as a source for tomorrow's energy.

Feature 12
For the first time in 12 years, the electric co-ops will have a friend in the White House.



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Richard Tumbleston's "Mast Farm Inn," depicting a prominent mountain refuge, is available as a limited edition print. For details, see page 6.

Our View

Clinton and Gore understand us

President's agenda should be helpful to co-ops

By Gary A. Whitener

North Carolina's electric cooperatives have reason to hope they'll have friends in high places for the next four years, now that the federal government's executive branch will be directed by two veteran public servants who have roots in rural Southern communities.

Judging by their campaign pledges and government service records, we can expect President Bill Clinton of Arkansas and Vice President Al Gore of Tennessee to understand the principles and objectives of member-owned electric cooperatives and their communities.

Both Clinton and Gore know that rural Americans can be proud of their hometowns, no matter where they might be. They know that proud citizens work devotedly to enhance the quality of life in their communities—and they know that the local electric co-ops work right alongside the citizens to achieve the same goals.

All departments of a Clinton administration can affect those co-ops and those communities. But there are specific issues where the philosophy can have a direct impact.

The most obvious is the Clinton administration's policy toward the Rural Electrification Administration,

Gary A. Whitener

the agency which issues loans to electric and telephone cooperatives. During the campaign, Clinton talked about strengthening REA's role in improving the nation's rural economy.

The president of the Arkansas association of electric co-ops and the head of the co-ops' national association agree that Clinton appreciates the mission and work of the co-ops.

The record shows that the former governor has favored a federal partnership with local public schools, economic development and extension agencies, farmers and small businesses, all of which are key to the prosperity of the communities we serve.

Clinton has favored several energy-related measures which can benefit electric cooperatives and the North Carolina communities they serve. He has called for stronger energy conservation incentives in factories, offices, homes and transportation, including all agencies of the federal government. He favors more ambitious efficiency standards in appliances, building construction and vehicles.

While shying away from further reliance on nuclear-generated power, Clinton said that all other forms of domestic energy supplies should be developed in an environmentally responsible manner. He has been especially strong in boosting research and development of alternative energy technologies and renewable energy sources. He has even called for restoring federal tax incentives for renewable energy use. And, he has urged electric utilities nationwide to follow the example set by co-ops in North Carolina and elsewhere in promoting the consumer's role in controlling demand for electricity.

In addition, utilities that have adopted least-cost analysis and planning policies—including Tar Heel co-ops—have drawn high praise from candidate Clinton. Least-cost planning is a process of examining all aspects of fuel use and power supply in order to pursue projects which incur the lowest possible economic, environmental and social costs.

As the new administration's top priorities emerge in the months ahead, I believe they will reflect a fresh new approach on a variety of fronts, including those affecting the electric co-ops and the rural people they serve.

We certainly hope Bill Clinton and Al Gore remember their roots as they mold a new American agenda. And we wish them Godspeed as they take on the heavy responsibilities of leading a troubled nation.

Gary A. Whitener, manager of Rutherford EMC, Forest City, served for 12 years as a Republican member of the Catawba Board of County Commissioners.

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Cover: Richard Tumbleston's "Mast Farm Inn"

Our cover this month is a detail from "Mast Farm Inn," a painting by Watauga County artist Richard Tumbleston. It depicts one of the most complete mountain farmsteads in the East.

The Mast Farm Inn, near Valle Crucis just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, was a dream brought to life by German immigrant Joseph Mast.

Legend has it that Mast left his native Germany, emmigrated to Switzerland, and then to Lancaster County, Pa., only to walk from there to the mountains of North Carolina. He traded his rifle, his dog and a pair of leggings for 1,000 acres of land in Watauga County, where he eventually built his home.

No records remain of the family's earliest living quarters, but when Joseph's son David built a two-room log cabin around 1810, he started what would be a Mast Farm tradition of building. That cabin was the first of at least 16 structures that formed a complete mountain homestead on the property.

In 1984, Francis and Sibyl Pressly found Mast Farm and knew it was just what they'd been searching for as a site for an inn. They immediately undertook renovations to the 13 remaining farm structures scattered over 18 acres. The work was handled by local artisans and family friends.

The Presslys, who are Iredell County natives, left careers in Washington to establish an inn at the farm. Sibyl had been a physical therapist and Francis, an official of the National 4-H Council.

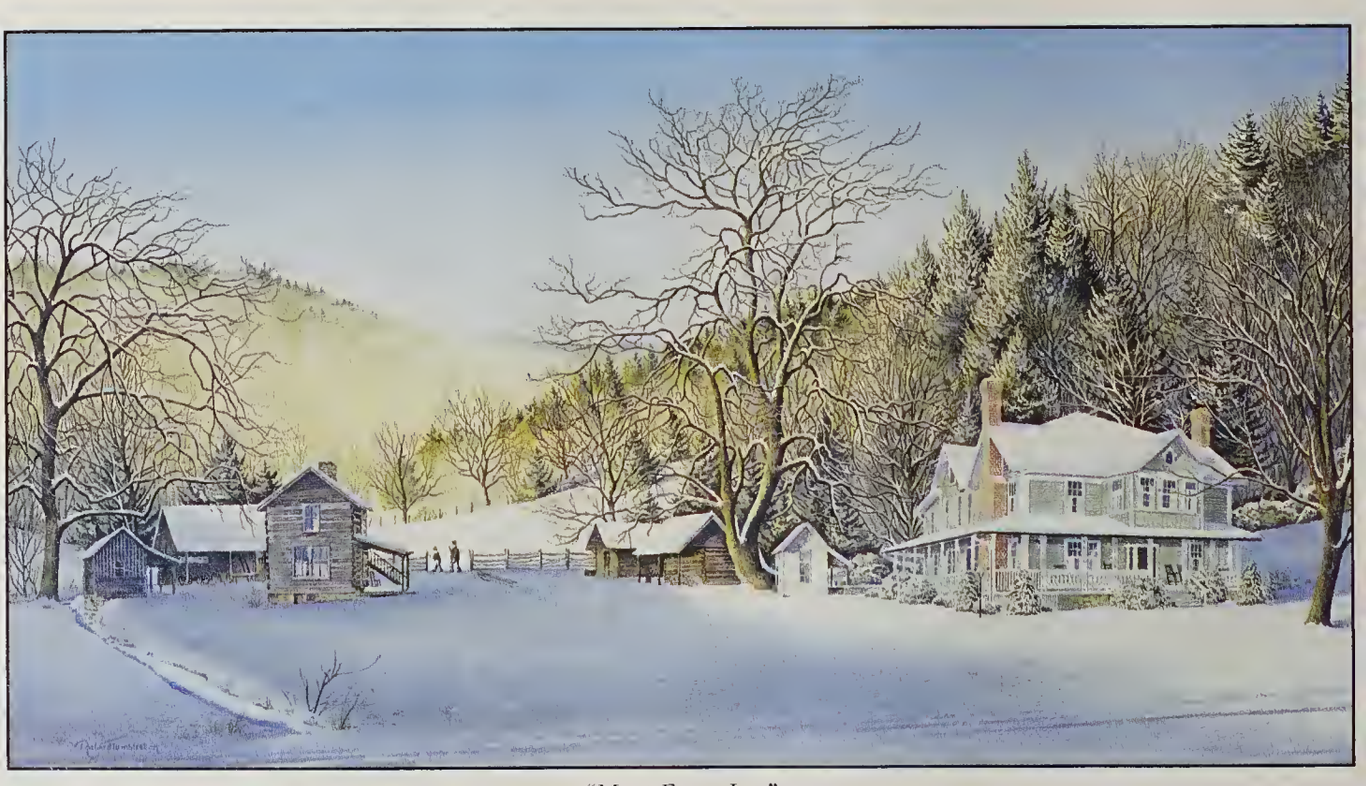
The inn now offers nine guest rooms in the main house and accommodations in three of the outbuildings. It is open January to March and May to November, offering family style breakfast and dinner on the modified American Plan. The dining room is also open to the public for dinner (except Mondays) and for Sunday lunch.

Mast Farm, which is served by Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir, is considered one of the finest examples of a self-contained mountain homestead in North Carolina.

Named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1972, the inn includes the main house, the two-room log cabin, a spring house, a smoke house, an apple house (once used as the ice house), a blacksmith shop, a woodworking shop, a wash house, a granary and a barn.

"Mast Farm Inn" is Tumbleston's 21st limited edition print. It has an image size of 22 by 12 inches. Signed and numbered copies are available for $89.80, including tax, postage and shipping.

Each print of "Mast Farm Inn" will be accompanied by a complimentary copy of "The Resting Place," an eight-by-six-inch print depicting a rocking chair and a basket of flowers on the porch of an old house. The bonus print usually sells for $20.



"Mast Farm Inn"

To order directly from the artist, mail your order to Richard Tumbleston, P.O. Box 1243, Boone, N.C. 28607. For telephone orders using MasterCard or Visa, call him at (704) 264-7147.

For information about the inn or to make reservations, write or call Mast Farm Inn, P.O. Box 704, Valle Crucis, N.C. 28691. Phone: (704) 963-5857.

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Feature

Photovoltaics are becoming economical

Utilities look to the sun for tomorrow's electricity

Text and photos by
Michael E.C. Gery
Associate Editor

When the Arab oil embargo choked the U.S. 20 years ago, America vowed to protect itself by improving energy efficiency and developing renewable energy sources.

Since then, the nation has indeed produced energy-efficient machinery and appliances. And consumers at all levels use energy more carefully. But reliance on renewable energy has lagged behind, mainly because devices to use energy from wind, water, sun and plants have not become economically acceptable.

The outlook for renewable energy is much brighter today, experts say.

One particular technology is especially promising: photovoltaic systems that convert sunlight into electricity.

During the past 20 years, photovoltaics have been used in remote areas where extending power lines is not feasible, or in such stand-alone appliances as communications equipment, signs and navigational lights.

In recent years, electric utilities have experimented with photovoltaics. Several electric cooperatives in western states recommend PVs to ranchers who need water pumps on the range. Other utilities have participated in such projects as a PV-powered parking garage and PV-powered vacation homes.

PV modules that cost $100 per watt in 1970 now cost between $4 and $6 per watt.

One experiment involved a 5-megawatt PV generation plant in California that uses hundreds of modules covering a tract the size of about 10 football fields.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Department of Energy has called for American utilities to put in place 250 megawatts of PV power in the next eight years.

The cost of producing electricity by photovoltaics has limited their use. But the cost is coming down. PV modules that cost $100 per watt in 1970 now cost between $4 and $6 per watt, according to Jerry Ginn of Sandia National Laboratory, the federal lab in New Mexico that conducts PV research and development.

"When you figure in the costs of running transmission line, the PV cost can look very attractive to some utilities," Ginn said recently at a workshop for North Carolina utilities officials. "Stand-alone systems, such as water pumping in remote areas, are cost-effective now. It won't be long until a lot of other uses for service without the wire are just as cost-effective."

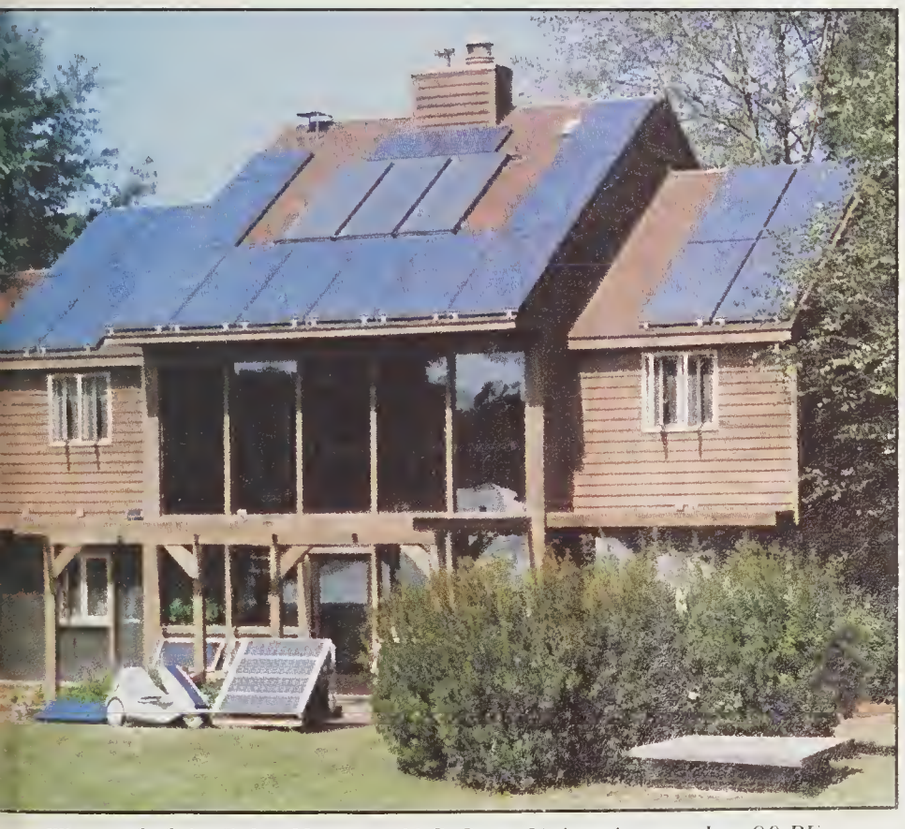
PVs in North Carolina

North Carolinians can see PVs at work in several places: signs and

message boards at the North Carolina Zoo in Asheboro, outdoor security lighting at Park and Ride sites in Raleigh, roadside radio stations broadcasting tourist information, and on the roof of the Solar House adjacent to McKimmon Center at North Carolina State University in Raleigh.

The Solar House was built in 1988 by state government and the university's engineering school. Last year some 20,000 people visited the house to see an example of an all-electric residence with a yearly heating bill totalling only $70.

This year, 90 PV modules were mounted on the Solar House roof.



The roof of the Solar House at N.C. State University now has 90 PV modules capable of generating about 5,000 kilowatts per year.

The 3-kilowatt system was donated by the North Carolina Alternative Energy Corporation, a non-profit organization formed by the state's five major electric utilities, including Carolina Electric Cooperatives.

Photovoltaics will supply about half the Solar House's electric needs, about 5,000 kilowatt-hours per year. The DC power generated on the roof is converted to AC power for the building's lights and appliances by way of an inverter which retains 90 percent of the electricity. Because the house is connected to the Carolina Power and Light Company grid, excess power generated by the PVs is "sold" to the utility.

Solar electric economics

Rooftop photovoltaic power is too expensive for the average consumer at present. The Solar House system, for example, would cost between $30,000 and $40,000, which translates into 30 to 40 cents per kilowatt-hour over 20 years. But solar electricity advocates expect those costs to continue dropping.

Donald Aitken, a noted California scientist who chairs the American Solar Energy Society, told North Carolina utility officials that photovoltaics will help utilities control demands on their generating facilities while also spreading the benefits of an environmentally benign technology.

North Carolina is in the top 80 percent of the nation in the amount of usable solar radiation recorded, according to the N.C. Solar Center. Only areas of Florida and the Southwest see more solar energy.

But sunshine and improved technology don't necessarily translate into readily available solar electricity for North Carolina.

Tom Laing, demand side planning analyst for Carolina Electric Cooperatives who wrote a master's degree dissertation on PVs, said photovoltaics make sense for some applications at present. But they're not yet appropriate for supplying household power.

The peak electricity requirements of homes, which comprise most of Carolina Electric Cooperatives' consumer base, are during the morning hours just before most residents leave for work and in the late afternoon right after they return home. The sun's power is not at its best at those hours.

Batteries and other hardware needed to store and use PV electricity have not advanced as fast as the PV systems themselves, Laing said. But he foresees progress in this area, especially as the same deep-cycle batteries can be used in the emerging electric cars.

Issues affecting utilities and the use of photovoltaics in North Carolina are currently being examined by a utilities task force called the PV Utilization Working Group. Laing, a member of the group, said the task force, which includes state regulators, is looking at ways to encourage development of solar electricity.

For example, the group has discussed applications where uses themselves can be scaled down to require power more suited to PV. One such

continued on page 16

A photovoltaic system (top left) provides power for navigational lighting at the new Washington Baum Bridge spanning Roanoke Sound in Dare County.

continued from page 9

use, Laing said, is on the Bonner Bridge over Oregon Inlet on the Outer Banks, where a hazard light's power requirements were adjusted to permit a PV to be safely perched on the bridge.

Otherwise, photovoltaics are not yet economical for utilities to supply residences unless the PV is less costly than running new distribution lines. And in such instances, the homeowner must be willing to use less electricity than would be normal with traditional power service.

Grant R. "Bud" Ayers Jr., vice president for power supply and rates at Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir, is a member of the Technology Development Task Force of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

He said the task force wants to know more about PVs and has scheduled a trip to the premier PV design center, Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, to discuss solar electricity and electric cooperatives.

NRECA's Martin Gordon, project manager for energy research and development, said the co-ops have found PVs economical in places where distribution line extensions would be long and costly. Otherwise, he said, the hardware must advance to a point where co-ops can obtain a warrantied, single-package PV system that can be installed simply.

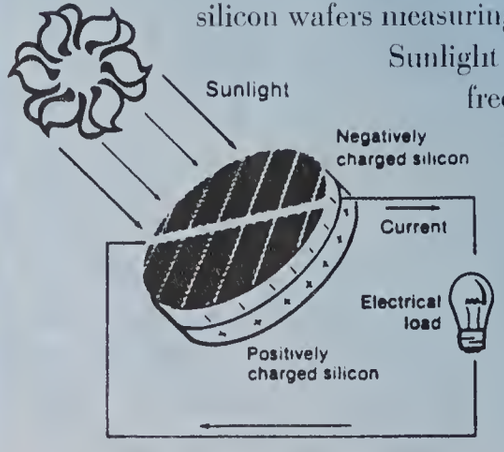
Last fall, NRECA became a charter member of a utility group formed to accelerate the use of photovoltaics. The group's chairman, Andrew Vesey of Niagara Mohawk Power, said the coalition has a 5-year goal of expanding use of the already cost-effective PVs and to "build market-driven approaches" for larger uses.

Noting initial support from private utilities, public power systems and electric cooperatives, Vesey said, "The utility industry has embarked on a new era to commercialize electricity from the sun."

For more information, contact the North Carolina Solar Center, Box 7401, Raleigh, N.C. 27695-7401. Phone: (919) 737-3480 or (800) 336-2786.

How do photovoltaics work?

Photovoltaic systems (from the words "photo" meaning light and "voltaic" meaning related to electric current) employ crystalline silicon wafers measuring about 4 inches across.



Sunlight strikes the silicon, whose properties free the light's electrons. The freed electrons are directed by thin wires to create electric current. A typical 4-inch photovoltaic cell can generate about one watt of direct current (DC) electricity. Multiple cells are connected and mounted in a glass housing called a module, usually the size of a desktop.

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Feature

For the first time in 12 years

Co-ops will have a friend in the White House

When President Bush moves out of the White House Jan. 20, he'll take 12 years worth of opposition to rural electric cooperatives with him.

Leaders of the nation's 1,000 consumer-owned rural electric utilities predict that Bill Clinton will bring a kinder, gentler attitude toward the co-ops when he takes up residence in Washington.

"There will be a more cooperative attitude" toward the co-ops, said Carl Whillock, president of Arkansas Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Electric cooperatives borrow money from the Rural Electrification Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Beginning with President Reagan's first term in 1980, the Office of Management and Budget has tried to limit the amount of money the co-ops may borrow and, at times, sought to close REA altogether.

Clinton, in several pre-election statements, promised to keep the agency open. He suggested that REA's role in improving the rural economy could be strengthened.

"We won't be hassled as much," Whillock said.

Under the current administration, REA sometimes takes a year or more to approve loan applications. It has refused to allow co-ops with high-interest loans to refinance them at lower rates or to pay them off early without a penalty. Currently, REA has a backlog of loan applications worth more than $7 million.

Bill Clinton (left) will become U.S. president and Al Gore, vice president on Jan. 20.

"I sense that a Clinton White House may have a better understanding of the rural electrics' mission and purpose as it relates to people," said Larry Watkins, general manager of Oklahoma Association of Electric Co-ops. "He'll view it more as a people program that contributes economically to the generation of wealth in rural areas, rather than as a 'government program.' "

Some hope Clinton will allow REA to lend more money. Each year, REA lends the minimum amount required by Congress rather than the maximum amount, resulting in the large backlog of loan applications.

Others, however, don't foresee any more money flowing from the government.

"I don't predict any massive increases in REA funding," said Bob Bergland, general manager of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. Yet he expects Clinton to support the co-ops.

"The REA's going to stay. We're not going to have this constant hassle about termination."

Meanwhile, many of the nation's rural leaders believe Clinton's Arkansas background will make him

receptive to addressing various other rural needs as well.

"Clinton's roots in a rural state like Arkansas are very solid and deep, and he understands a lot of what I'd call traditional sorts of values, community values that are at the heart of life in rural America," said the Rev. David Ostendorf, executive director of Prairie Fire, a Des Moines-based rural education group.

"I think it's going to be a friendly audience," Berglund said, adding that Clinton will "have to do what he can without any big, massive spending increases."

That sentiment has been echoed in many quarters.

"The problems are so acute that I don't think any one president is going to turn things around overnight," said Larry Watkins. "I sure don't believe that the Democrats are going to rush pell mell just to throw a lot of borrowed money at problems."

Rural advocates also sense that a Clinton White House will pay more attention to rural issues as he focuses on a range of domestic problems.

"We have crying domestic needs. We have crying rural needs. We found no help from the Bush administration on rural needs," said Republican Jesse Tilton, a Clinton supporter who is president of the Pennsylvania Rural Electric Association.

With Clinton in the White House, he said, "There will be a focus on domestic issues, which will include rural issues. There will be an improved economy. That will be helpful to a rural America that has seen industry wither, unemployment go up, basic infrastructure services decline."

Clinton's campaign platform called for investing in the country's infrastructure—roads, bridges, sewer systems, hospitals, railways, utilities and schools—to turn the economy around.

"Because of a decade of tough economic times, many communities have postponed making necessary and needed improvements in their infrastructure," Lasley said. "As a result, we are facing a need for a major infusion of new capital."

Overall, rural voters chose Clinton over President Bush, 43 percent to 38 percent, according to polls by Voter Research and Surveys. Ross Perot claimed 19 percent of the rural vote.

By contrast, city voters chose Clinton 52 percent of the time and suburbanites, 44 percent.

—Rural Electric News Service

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Focus

New guide to N.C. environmental groups ... Magazine printing with soybean ink ... Co-op organization names two VPs.

How to avoid hefty tax bite on lump-sum retirement payments

With the arrival of 1993, a new law goes into effect that will have a direct impact on anyone who retires with a lump-sum payment from a retirement plan.

The law, enacted by Congress last August, allows the retiree to do a tax-deferred "rollover" of any amount of retirement savings into another retirement plan, including an IRA (Individual Retirement Account).

"Rollover" simply means moving your money from the retirement fund into another financial system. It's done all the time in financial circles, but the shift of the lump-sum payment must be handled carefully to avoid a hefty tax on the transaction.

Under the new law, the lump-sum payment can be transferred, at your request, to another "trustee," such as a bank, credit union or other financial institution. If you get the check, your employer must withhold 20 percent of the total for the Internal Revenue Service.

Let's say your lump sum amounts to $50,000. If you receive the check from your employer, it will be for only $40,000.

The 20 percent will have been withheld. It's still your money, but the IRS will hold it just as it does withholding from a regular paycheck. The $10,000 withheld will be credited to your account with the IRS, and if you're overwithheld, you will get a refund when you file your next income tax return.

But the amount withheld from your lump sum payment must be reported as current income and it will be subject to the usual tax bite.

You can avoid this problem quite easily. If you are about to receive a lump sum from a retirement system, you need to decide where you're going to place that money—and then ask your employer to pay the entire amount to that institution or trustee.

The trustee must be prepared to accept the funds in a new account that has a zero balance.

This procedure will also allow you to comply with another requirement for setting up an IRA. You have only 60 days from the time you receive such a sum of money to enroll it in an IRA.

Keep in mind that once the money is in the hands of a given trustee, you have no lifetime commitment to keep it there. When you have an IRA set up, you can do another "rollover" for greatest financial advantage. But you can do it only once a year.

N.C. environmental program's new guide: "Green Pages"

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Environmental Resource Program has produced the third edition of the "Guide to North Carolina's Environmental Groups." It is believed to be the only guide of its kind nationwide.

Each group is indexed according to its primary issue focus, such as agriculture, coastal and wetland protection, energy issues, hazardous waste management and water quality.

The purpose of the guide is to encourage discussion among like-minded organizations that might otherwise do the same work alone, to link the limited resources of public interest organizations, and to promote environmental protection and public health through informed decision making at the local level.

It is available by mail for $9 to non-profit groups and for $30 to for-profit organizations.

Contact the Environmental Resource Program, Miller Hall,

CB# 8165, UNC-CH, Chapel Hill. N.C. 27599-8165. Phone: (919) 966-3332.

Carolina Electric Cooperatives appoints two vice presidents

A specialist in utility finance and an attorney with broad experience in assisting electric cooperatives have been named to top management positions with Carolina Electric Cooperatives.

They are Louis E. Buck Jr., who was appointed vice president of finance, and Robert B. Schwentker, who was appointed vice president of legal services.

Louis E. Buck Jr.

Buck spent the past 12 years in finance management with a utility in Texas while Schwentker has been with a Raleigh law firm for the past 14 years.

They will report to Wayne D. Keller, executive vice president of Carolina Electric Cooperatives, the network of electric cooperative organizations that serve 1.6 million people in North Carolina.

The new executives will direct operations in the Raleigh office. Buck will oversee finance and accounting operations and information services. Schwentker will oversee corporate counseling, legal services, power supply arrangements, wholesale rate proceedings, litigation, legal overview and government relations.

Buck succeeds Oreste Baffi, who resigned in December 1991 after 12 years in the post. Buck, a Texas native, spent the past four years as manager of finance at Texas Utilities in Dallas.

A graduate of the Naval Academy, Buck earned his master's degree in business administration from the University of Houston. He also has a Ph.D. in finance from Texas A&M University.

Schwentker succeeds Thomas J. Bolch, who resigned last spring after 10 years as chief counsel and vice president of legal services for the co-op organization.

Robert B. Schwentker

Schwentker, an Arizona native, has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Principia College in Elsah, Illinois. He earned his law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The attorney represented Electric Membership Corporations across the state as a member of the law firm of Crisp, Davis, Schwentker, Page, Currin and Nichols in Raleigh. The firm was established by the late William T. Crisp II, who helped organize the co-ops' state association.

The name Carolina Electric Cooperatives was recently adopted to refer to the entire network of electric cooperatives in North Carolina. The three corporations that provide services for the co-ops are:

- The North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, a generation and transmission cooperative that provides bulk power to its member co-ops.
- The North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, which provides trade association services, including marketing, economic development, government relations, corporate communications and training.
- The Tarheel Electric Membership Association, a central purchasing and materials supply agency.

Magazine shifts entirely to soybean ink

Carolina Country magazine is now being printed exclusively with soybean oil ink, which is less harmful to the environment than traditional petroleum-based ink.

"This is just one more step in our effort to be as environmentally friendly as possible in our operations," said Wayne D. Keller, executive vice president of Carolina Electric Cooperatives, the magazine's publisher. He said the switch to soy ink follows a decision last spring to print the magazine entirely on recycled paper.

"With these two moves, we are helping to reduce the huge volume of waste that goes into the landfills and to soften the environmental impact of our magazine. In switching to the new ink, we've also expanded our use of an important North Carolina agricultural product. We're really pleased to be able to do that."

The soy ink, which is nontoxic and almost entirely biodegradable, is becoming increasingly popular in the publishing industry because of its environmental advantages, effective reproduction qualities and low rub-off characteristics.

After the ink proved effective in tests on *Carolina Country*, it was adopted for the publication's entire monthly press run of about 340,000.

Effective with this issue, the magazine will regularly display the American Soybean Association's official Soyseal trademark indicating that the publication is printed exclusively with soy ink.

A window of energy-saving opportunity

Researchers at Tufts University are developing a window that will control how much heat and light to let in.

On a hot summer day, the Smart Window will let in enough light to read by but not enough to heat up a house or car.

The window works like this: A small electric current varies the number of electrons and ions in an electrochromic film layer. The film automatically changes from transparent to opaque depending on the number of electrons.

"We thought, 'Why not use the visible part of the spectrum, but reject everything else that we don't use for viewing?'" says Ronald B. Goldner, a professor of electrical engineering at Tufts' Electro-Optics Technology Center in Medford, Mass.

The energy-saving potential is enormous. Some figures show that U.S. office buildings lose $30 billion to $50 billion worth of energy a year through overheating in the summer and heat loss in the winter.

The concept hasn't been applied yet to full-sized windows, says Goldner. He expects commercial applications in a few years.

— Rural Electric News Service

Proposed waste disposal rules could shut off "Green Lights"

The Environmental Protection Agency's "Green Lights" program may soon get a flashing yellow caution light.

"Green Lights" urges consumers to replace old fluorescent lightbulbs with more efficient new ones. But the federal agency could sabotage the program by ruling that the discarded bulbs and ballasts, which contain small amounts of PCBs and mercury, are hazardous waste.

Until now, the EPA has required hazardous waste disposal only for ballasts that were leaking PCBs. The proposed rules may prevent consumers from dumping old fluorescent bulbs in landfills because mercury from the bulbs could leak into groundwater.

The new rules may also regulate ballasts that contain PCBs.

The move could put an end to utilities' support for the "Green Lights" program, says Jim Roewer, program manager for the Utilities Solid Waste Activities Group at Edison Electric Institute. If utilities are held liable for lighting disposal problems, they may not dare to replace old bulbs.

—Rural Electric News Service

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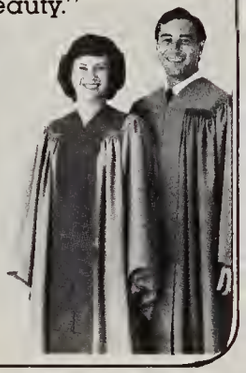

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Five receive state's highest honor

The 29th annual North Carolina Awards have been presented to an author, a public servant, a scientist, a soldier and a dancer.

In presenting the awards, Gov. James G. Martin said, "The North Carolina Award winners include many of America's finest poets, scientists, musicians, authors and statesmen."

The 1992 recipients, he said, "add five more distinguished North Carolinians to this impressive list."

The winners, and the categories in which they were honored, are:

• Louis D. Rubin, literature, for his role in the modern renaissance in Southern literature. An editor, novelist, essayist, teacher and publisher, he has inspired and motivated many creative Southern writers. He founded Algonquin Books in Chapel Hill in 1982 as an outlet for newer and younger writers.

• William Cochrane, public service, for his long and distinguished career in government. Cochrane, known affectionately as "Mr. N.C. in D.C." for more than 35 years, was widely considered the most influential North Carolinian on Capitol Hill. He served on the staffs of Senators W. Kerr Scott (1954-58) and B. Everett Jordan (1958-72), and as director and senior advisor to the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration.

• John M. J. Madey, science, for his achievements in research and development of the principles and techniques of laser physics. His invention, the free electron laser (FEL), has been acclaimed for its revolutionary applications in medicine, space travel, ballistic missile defense, microelectronics and engineering. Madey is a professor of physics at Duke University.

• Maxwell R. Thurman, public service by a North Carolina native living outside the state, for outstanding achievements in the military. The High Point native is one of the few non-West Point graduates to reach the rank of four-star general. He is a principal architect of the all-volunteer Army and became responsible for all American military activities in Latin America, including "Operation Just Cause" in Panama.

• Charles R. "Chuck" Davis, fine arts, for his impressive and unique contributions to African American

continued on page 18

Rockingham couple honored as outstanding cooperators

Bonnie and Marion Craddock of Rockingham have been named the North Carolina Cooperative Council's Outstanding Young Cooperators for 1993.

The Craddocks were selected from among the 19 participants at the council's recent Cooperative Leadership Conference in New Bern. Seven cooperatives across the state were represented.

Marion and Bonnie Craddock

The conference is an annual educational program for young cooperative members who have leadership potential.

The program for the conference featured presentations by Bob Usry, N.C. State University/Cooperative Extension Service training specialist, and officials of various cooperatives.

Conference participants also organized their own cooperative to sell T-shirts. The "Carolina Crystal Coast Cooperative" shirts proved so popular, each co-op member received patronage dividends totaling $2.66 per shirt.

The Craddocks, who were sponsored by Piedmont Farm Credit, Agricultural Credit Association (ACA), Statesville, are part-time farmers with major emphasis on beef cattle. Bonnie is also an elementary school teacher, and Marion is a railroad engineer with CSX Transportation.

Both are active in professional, civic and church activities. Marion is currently president of the Richmond County Cattlemen's Association.

Kathryn and Danny McConnell of Hendersonville were chosen as runners-up for the Young Cooperators title. The McConnells were sponsored by Mountain Farm Credit, ACA, Asheville.

Others attending, listed by sponsoring co-ops, were:

Southern States: Margaret and Dean Ayscue of Wendell; Mike Hope of Clinton; and Teresa and Lane Dickens of Zebulon.

Crescent Electric Membership Corporation, Statesville: Beverly and Bill Beckham of Statesville; and Debbie and Brent Mastin of Wilkesboro.

Tarheel Farm Credit, ACA, Franklinton: Laureen and Sedric Jones of Franklinton.

Tri-County Telephone Membership Corporation, Belhaven: Debbie and Hank Leigh of Belhaven.

North Central Farm Credit, ACA: Becky and Jeffrey Smith of Roanoke

continued from page 17

culture. Founder and artistic director of the African American Dance Ensemble, he is the foremost teacher and choreographer of traditional African dance in America.

Catalog lists books on state's colorful past

Interested in North Carolina's colorful past? You can read about it with the help of a new catalog listing more than 150 titles. It's the 1992-1993 catalog of the Historical Publications Section of the N.C. Division of Archives and History. The booklet is now available without charge.

The catalog includes two important new books that are being offered for the first time.

"A History of African Americans in North Carolina" (237 pages, $10), by Jeffrey J. Crow, Paul D. Escott and Flora J. Hatley, is the first one-volume survey of black history in North Carolina.

"The Textile Industry in North Carolina: A History" (119 pages, $6), by Brent D. Glass, examines the impact of textile production on the economic, social, cultural and political life of the state.

Other new titles offered for the first time in this catalog include "There Ought to Be a Bill of Rights': North Carolina Enters a New Nation," (19 pages, $4). by William S. Price Jr. and "An Index to North Carolina Newspapers, 1784-1789" (68 pages, $12), edited by Alan D. Watson.

Among the Historical Publications Section's longtime best sellers are paperback books about pirates, legends, lighthouses, the Lost Colonists, Indians, the Civil War and highway historical markers.

Also included are periodicals, documentary volumes containing the edited papers of notable North Carolinians, maps, facsimile documents, posters, archival guides and guides to state historic sites.

To obtain a free catalog with descriptions and information about how to order these and other North Carolina titles, write to: Historical Publications Section (N), Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2807. Phone: (919) 733-7442.

New Museum of History set for April 1994 opening

How's this for advance notice: an announcement of a museum exhibit scheduled to open in April *1994*?

The exhibit will be part of the debut of a new state Museum of History facility that is scheduled to open in April 1994.

Main entrance of the new Museum of History in downtown Raleigh.

–photo by Eric Blevins

The new building in downtown Raleigh features 172,000 square feet of floor space—more than triple the space now allotted to the present museum in the Archives and History/State Library building. Because of the limited space there, only 10 percent of the museum's collection can be displayed at any one time.

In the works since 1985, the $29.5 million building was completed earlier this year. Staff began moving in during late summer.

In early October, the Sara Lee Corporation gave $350,000 toward the museum's first major exhibit, the Women's History Exhibition. Once it's installed in a 19,000-square-foot gallery, it will depict the history of women in North Carolina over the past 400 years.

Announcing the gift, Sara Lee president Paul Fulton said, "As the largest employer in North Carolina, we have seen the importance of women in our business. Women make up three-fourths of our workforce and represent about two-thirds of our customers."

The exhibition, he added, "is a way that Sara Lee can say thank you to the many women who have been a part of our history and will be a part of our future."

Meanwhile, Gov. James G. Martin and Cultural Resources Secretary Patric G. Dorsey commended the volunteer group Museum Associates for helping to raise $4.3 million toward the building's construction.

Gallery space comprises 55,000 square feet in the building, which will also house 620 parking spaces underground, a 315-seat auditorium, and a 125-seat restaurant.

Among the items to be exhibited eventually are a replica of the Wright

Brothers flyer, a Rogallo hang glider, a Guilford Battle flag, a Richard Petty race car, a Model T car and a Gatling gun. A 4,000-square-foot Sports Hall of Fame will contain artifacts given by the hall's inductees.

For more information, contact the museum at 109 E. Jones Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27601-2807. Phone: (919) 733-5722.

NCSU plans 4-H environmental education conference center

North Carolina State University plans to locate a $5 million 4-H Environmental Education Conference Center in Tyrrell County to enhance environmental education in eastern North Carolina.

NCSU Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences Durward Bateman said that the center will be named for the late Walter B. Jones Sr., congressman from North Carolina's First District from 1966 until his death in 1992. Jones was considered a leading voice for environmental protection.

The 242-acre site is on Bull's Bay between Wharf's Creek and the Scuppernong River at their confluence with the Albemarle Sound. This property contains significant stands of hardwoods, pristine waterfront and forested wetlands.

The site will provide access to both river and sound environments. With the support of both NCSU and the NC 4-H Development Fund Board, fund raising is under way.

The site joins the greenway corridor proposed for the Center for the Sounds, a Conservation Fund project to be located in Columbia for research and environmental education.

The center will be a facility for environmental programming and 4-H camping. The center, which also will offer programs for Youth at Risk, will be managed by the NCSU Department of 4-H Youth Development.

As eco-tourism continues to grow, natural resources attracting this industry will require management and protection, said Larry Gustke, NCSU associate professor of parks, recreation and tourism management.

He said that by a conservative estimate, the center is expected to have an economic impact of more than $2 million annually after its first full year of operation.

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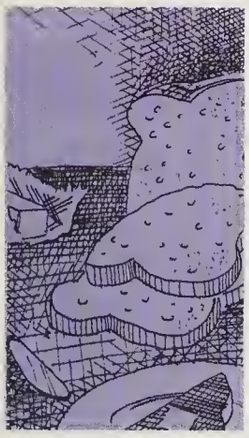

A hearty stew for winter.

Oven-Baked Stew

Submitted by Pam Cain, Polkton

2 pounds beef, cut in ½-inch cubes
5 or 6 carrots, cut in chunks
3 or 4 potatoes, cut in chunks
2 small onions, cut in chunks
1 large can tomatoes, cut in chunks
1 can beef broth
2 teaspoons salt
4 tablespoons cornstarch

Mix all ingredients in a large roasting pan. Cover tightly with foil. Bake three hours at 325 degrees or four hours at 250 degrees.

(If you must look, wait two hours, then re-cover and finish baking.)

Want to share recipes?

If you would like to share a recipe with Country Kitchen, send it to *Carolina Country*; P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.

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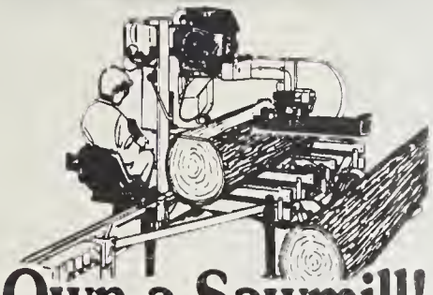

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Feature

North Carolina families and businesses benefit

Buckled seat belts protect all of us

By Jane Hairston Romani

If someone told you about a simple step that could save your money, your health and maybe even your life, would you do it?

Suppose they said this step costs you nothing but a few seconds of your time? Would that tip the scale for you?

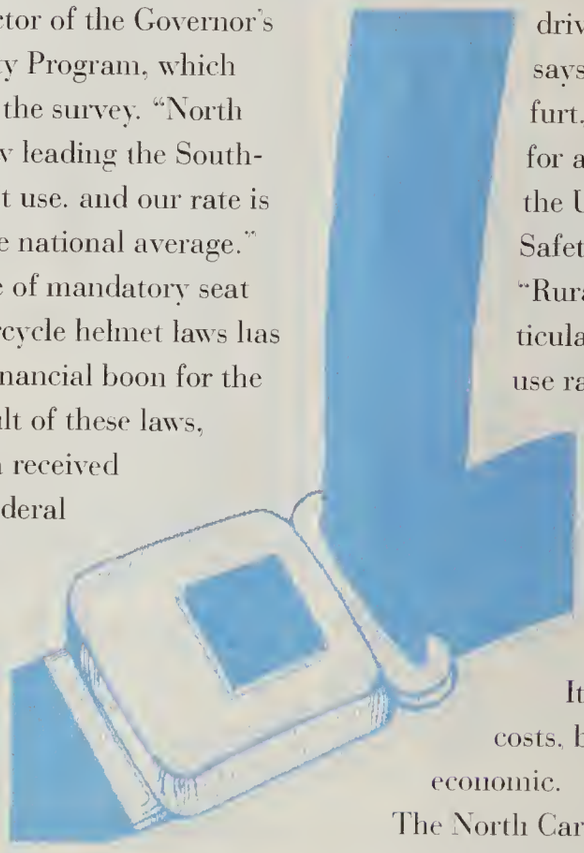
That simple step is buckling your seat belt. Since 1985, it's been the law in North Carolina.

In October of that year, North Carolina became the eighth state in the nation to adopt a mandatory seat belt law. Since then, any motorist caught unbuckled can be hit with a $25 fine.

The law has had a positive effect on the seat belt habits of North Carolinians. Before 1985, only 25 percent of Tar Heel drivers buckled up regularly. In a July 1992 survey, the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center in Chapel Hill found that the figure had risen to slightly more than 70 percent.

"While that's not as high a rate as we would like to see, it is a substantial improvement," says Paul Jones, executive director of the Governor's Highway Safety Program, which commissioned the survey. "North Carolina is now leading the Southeast in seat belt use, and our rate is higher than the national average."

The passage of mandatory seat belt and motorcycle helmet laws has also meant a financial boon for the state. As a result of these laws, North Carolina received $428,000 in federal funds in 1992, part of a $151 billion mass transit and highway bill adopted by Congress the previous year. The money went to the Governor's Highway Safety Program, which allocated most of it to local police. The rest is earmarked for public service announcements, educational programs in public schools and other highway safety efforts.



North Carolina's high rate of seat belt use makes the state eligible for additional federal funds in 1993 and 1994, provided the rate doesn't drop below 70 percent.

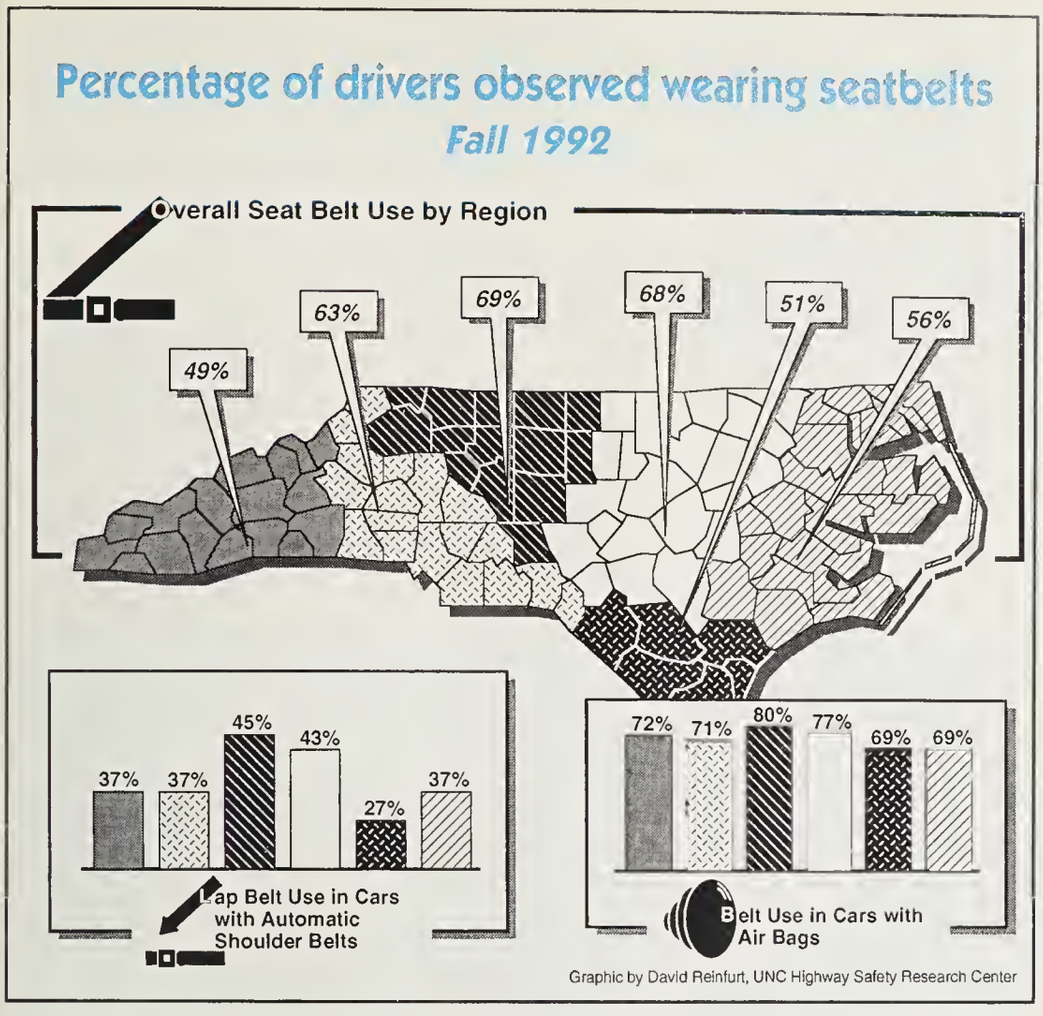
"Our success in adopting the seat belt habit is saving lives and bringing financial gain to North Carolina," Jones says.

Yet in spite of these advantages, and a growing public awareness of the importance of wearing seat belts, 30 percent of drivers in this state are still choosing not to buckle up. Studies show that many of these non-users are concentrated in specific demographic groups.

"We've found that non-users tend to be younger people, people in rural areas and those who drive pickup trucks," says Donald W. Reinfurt, associate director for analysis studies at the UNC Highway Safety Research Center. "Rural areas are a particular problem. While use rates in the urban areas of the state are generally good, outside of the I-85 corridor, it's a different story."

It's a story with high costs, both human and economic.

The North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles reports that in 1991, one out of every 16 licensed drivers in the state was involved in a motor vehicle accident—a total of more than 161,000 crashes. These crashes resulted in more than 114,000 injuries and nearly 1,400 deaths.



If you're one of the unlucky motorists involved in an accident, your seat belt can make the difference between sustaining minor injuries and suffering permanent disability or an untimely death.

Officials with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) said the use of lap and shoulder belts can reduce the risk of serious or fatal injury in a crash by as much as 55 percent. The agency estimates that unrestrained passenger car occupants are three times more likely to be hospitalized after an accident than are occupants who wear seat belts.

Robert Rutledge has seen firsthand the tragic results of not buckling up. Rutledge is a surgeon at the University of North Carolina Hospitals, specializing in trauma and critical care medicine. He is also director of the North Carolina Trauma Registry, a computer database on trauma injuries and treatment.

"As a trauma surgeon, I operate on many of the accident victims who come through UNC Hospitals," says Rutledge. "If everyone could see what I do—how severely an unrestrained driver or passenger can be injured in a crash—they'd never get into a car without buckling up."

Recent studies have shown that 50 to 60 percent of the unbelted accident victims admitted to North Carolina trauma centers receive serious head injuries, compared with only 30 percent of belted victims, Rutledge said.

Unbelted victims stay in the hospital an average of 50 percent longer, and have medical costs that are 50 percent higher, compared to victims who wore seat belts.

continued on page 24

"Ever since that day ..."

For five employees of the Harker's Island and Carteret-Craven EMCs, it was a business trip they'll never forget.

On Oct. 14, 1985, the co-op's Patsy Gaskill and Travis Davis were on the way home from a meeting at Jones-Onslow EMC, Jacksonville. In the car with them were Sara Mills and Mike Barnes of Harkers Island, and Bill Race of Carteret-Craven EMC.

"Mike was driving, with Bill beside him, and they were both belted," remembers Patsy. "Sara and Travis and I were in the back seat, and none of us had buckled up. At an intersection, a truck came out of a side street, and hit the side of our car right where Mike was sitting.

"Mike was slammed into the steering wheel, and suffered a broken nose and teeth, a bruised heart, and damage to his lungs. He was in the hospital for several weeks, and out of work for a couple of months. As bad as it sounds, it could have been much worse. If he hadn't been belted, he would have gone through the windshield and died."

While the other passengers escaped serious injuries, Patsy says she wishes they had all been belted when the accident occurred.

"Sara and Travis and I were especially lucky —we were just black and blue for a while. The three of us were thrown forward so hard, though, that I slammed into Mike's seat with such force that I tore off the headrest! The force of my weight pushed him into the steering wheel even harder than he would have been otherwise. I know for a fact that if I had been belted that day, his injuries would have been less serious."

She added: "Ever since that day, I never get into a car without buckling up."

continued from page 23

"Medical costs for these types of serious injuries can easily run into the millions of dollars, with even partial recovery literally taking years," explains Rutledge. "In addition, head injuries, in particular, often leave victims severely and permanently disabled. Since they can no longer work or care for themselves, many of them ultimately become wards of the state.

"Because so many of those who don't buckle up are young, you're often looking at 30, 40, or 50 years of taxpayer-supported care for these people. So you can see how enormous the cost of not wearing your seat belt can be, both in human suffering and in dollars."

The problem is made worse, says Paul Jones, by the fact that many of the people who refuse to wear seat belts also have other risk factors.

"Statistically, the 30 percent of North Carolina drivers who refuse to wear seat belts are also more likely to speed and to drink and drive, which increases their chances of a serious crash. In addition, they are also more likely to be without medical insurance, which means that their medical costs may have to picked up by the taxpayer as well."

The medical costs and lost productivity of accident victims can also place a substantial burden on the business community. More than 30 percent of all employee deaths in the U.S. are caused by traffic accidents, making them the number one killer of American workers.

The Network of Employers for Traffic Safety, a non-profit organization that promotes traffic safety programs in the workplace, estimates that each employee fatality costs American business an average of $110,500 in worker's compensation and at least a similar amount for uninsured costs.

In addition, employee injuries, which are far more common than fatalities, cost businesses lost work time and higher rates for health and liability insurance and worker's compensation.

"For small businesses, especially those which are self-insured, having just one employee severely injured or killed in a crash can be a financial catastrophe," says Jones. "And the saddest part is, this kind of emotional and financial suffering could often have been prevented or lessened if only the occupants had been restrained. While there's no way to be sure you'll never have an accident, just taking a few seconds to buckle up can mean the difference between tragedy and a long, healthy life."

Jane Hairston Romani is a freelance writer in Durham.

"I thought I was invincible."

It started out as just another day of trailriding with his buddies for Charlotte engineer Grant Suddreth. "It was Nov. 9, 1990, and some friends and I were out trailriding in our jeeps," says Grant. "We'd all done a lot of trailriding, and we were showing off to each other, going up and down hills. I don't think any of us were belted. There was one hill that was really challenging, almost impossible to climb. Some of the others tried it, and I did, too. After three tries I made it up."

Coming back down was a different story. While following another vehicle down the hill at an angle, Grant's jeep went over the edge.

"I hit the brakes hard, and the jeep flipped," he remembers matter-of-factly. "My head slammed into the roof, and I was thrown to the ground, but when I tried to get up, I found that I couldn't move."

The weight of his body smashed several vertabrae in his neck as his head hit the roof, resulting in permanent paralysis. A seven-month hospital stay followed.

Today, Grant works as an engineer for Microsoft Corporation, a computer software company, doing technical troubleshooting. He has limited use of his arms, and no use of his fingers. A specially equipped van allows him to drive while in his wheelchair.

He shares his story regularly with junior high and high school students, through a program called Think First. Developed by the American Association of Neurological Surgeons and Congress of Neurological Surgeons, Think First focuses on teaching young people the dangers of not wearing seat belts, drinking and driving, and other risky behaviors.

"I was only 23 when my accident happened," says Grant. "I was young and overconfident, and mostly I just never really thought about wearing my seat belt."

Through his work with Think First, Grant hopes to persuade his audience to buckle up and practice other safety measures that could prevent serious injuries. "Like a lot of others, I thought I was invincible, that nothing like this could happen to me," says Grant. "I was wrong."

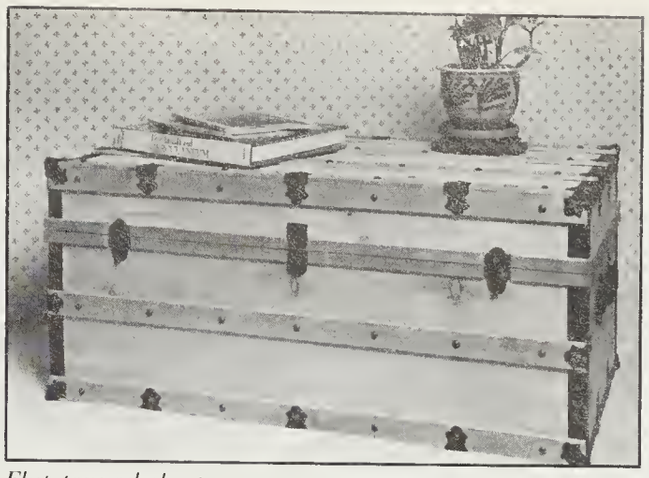
Do Your Own Thing

These do-it-yourself projects bring the warmth of antiques to your home.

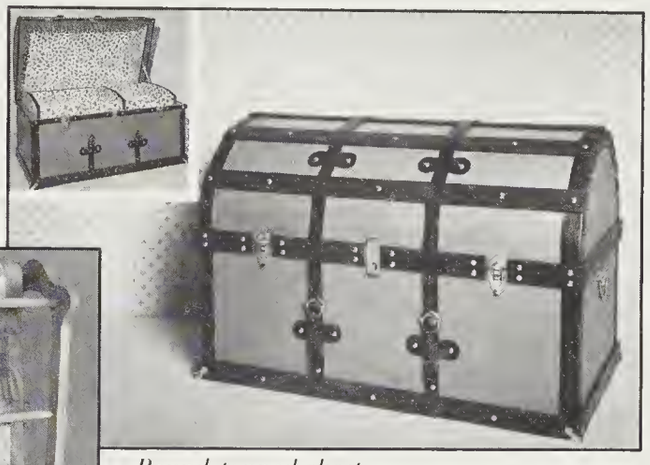
Accent on "antiques"

With country decorations and antiques so popular, wouldn't it be nice to save some money and build something yourself that looks antique? Country decorations make your home cozy while they make you feel the comforts of another time.

A chest in an antique design can be a handsome accent piece, provide extra storage space, and even serve as a table. Here are two designs to choose from to add to your home decor.



Flat-topped chest.



Round-topped chest.

Quilt rack.

Step-by-step instructions, photos, exploded diagrams and traceable parts for both the flat and round top chests are all included on one plan sheet. Materials and hardware for building both styles are readily available from your local home centers. However, if you wish to make your own straps and handles out of leather or naugahyde, our detailed plans give you full-size traceable patterns to do so.

Select the inside lining and outside coverings to complement a particular room. To obtain "Antique Chests," **Plan #762**, please send $4.50.

By following our step-by-step plan you can build a rack that may someday become a hand-me-down heirloom of your own. This one is made from ¾-inch oak. Cut according to the schedule, sand the pieces, drill the holes, and assemble. To obtain "Quilt Rack," **Pattern #799**, please send $6.50.

For a collection of three other classic oak patterns: a lawyer's bookcase, file cabinet and ice box, order **#C55** and enclose $12. Prices include postage and handling. Also available is our 112-page "Patterns For Living" catalog picturing 700 woodworking and handicraft projects for $3.95. Send your check or money order to: Steve Ellingson, c/o *Carolina Country*, P.O. Box 2383, Van Nuys, CA 91409-2383.

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Hank's Gardening Guide

by Hank Smith

Dormant season calls for planting, pruning and preventive measures.

Now that we're in the midst of the dormant season, it's time to plant bare-root and container-grown roses—as well as bare-root fruit and nut trees. Now's the time to apply dormant sprays for insect control. During periods of mild weather, complete pruning operations before new growth appears in the spring.

Cold weather calls for preventive measures to protect plants from freeze damage. Keep large cardboard boxes, plastic or burlap handy to protect plants during cold snaps.

Make a resolution to plant only in quantities that you'll find time to maintain with quality. A functional and useful landscape is one that doesn't overwork the gardener—leaving time for enjoyment.

Prune summer flowering plants

Begin pruning summer-flowering deciduous trees and shrubs, such as crepe myrtle, vitex, buddleia and althea. These all bloom on new growth. If plants have grown too large for their position in the landscape, they can be pruned severely.

Fast-growing trees that need pruning now are Chinese elm, mulberry, silver maple, sycamore and weeping willow. All these can become a problem in the landscape—it may be that you'll want to consider replacing them with slower-growing and somewhat stronger trees.

In pruning the above-mentioned trees, don't neglect thinning and cutting back new tip growth to prevent breakage and to add strength to branch structure.

Don't overlook smaller trees

Every yard has a place for one or more small trees. Large yards benefit from a grouping of several. There are numerous desirable species from which to choose.

Redbud, with lavender-pink blossoms shaped like sweet peas, casts a spell over a spring garden. This is a good complementary tree for dogwood. Redbud's heart-shaped leaves give a brilliant yellow display in the autumn.

Dogwood makes a fine small tree. Its striking blossoms are distinct landscape accents. (Actually the showy part of the bloom is a bract—as with poinsettias.) Varieties with pink and near-red blooms are showy contrasts to traditional white.

Flowering crabapples reach 20 to 25 feet in height. They spread luxuriously and are eye-catching in bloom and fruit. There are many varieties in varying shapes and colors of blooms.

Oriental magnolias, with either rosy-pink, purple or star-like white flowers, make excellent small-scale trees to accent spring bulbs.

Flowering cherries, mountain ash, hawthorn and sourwood are exciting trees. Albizzia (silk tree) contributes delicate silk-like foliage.

Golden rain tree and golden chain tree have beautiful yellow flowers.

Purple-leaf plum is a masterpiece with sprays of tiny pink blooms.

House plants need attention

Three major causes of pot plant death during winter months are: overwatering, underwatering and improper light.

Water when soil is dry to the touch of the fingers. Pots without drainage holes require water less frequently than those with holes. If soil becomes completely dry, place pots in the sink for a thorough soaking. Practically no living plant will survive in a dark corner of a room, although some require less light than others. Artificial light helps, but a sunny window is best.

Keep fertilizing to a minimum. It can promote spindly growth during these less than ideal conditions.

Make sure evergreens get enough water

Keep a sharp eye on evergreen plants to be sure they're not suffering from lack of moisture.

Watch especially plants growing under a roof overhang where rainfall does not reach them.

Glorious gloxinias need constant moisture

These are related to African violets and like the same growing conditions: soil that is kept constantly moist but not too moist, cool night temperatures, and bright indirect light.

Gloxinias take a rest after blooming. When flowers wilt, stop fertilizing the plant. (Use liquid house plant fertilizer.) Cut back watering gradually. When leaves begin to shrivel, the plant should not be watered at all.

Let the plant rest for two to four months; it will begin to grow when it is ready. When new shoots appear, repot the plant and begin watering and feeding.

Fertilize your winter annuals now

Established winter annuals such as calendulas, pansies and sweet peas benefit from a light application of complete fertilizer. Apply a pound of 8-8-8 or equal analysis per 100 square feet of bed area.

Repeat fertilizer application every four to six weeks.

Winter Hints

1. Remove dead foliage from iris.
2. To avoid the "butchered" look, delay heavy pruning of shrubs until late March.
3. When repotting cacti, handle plants with a pair of kitchen tongs to avoid sticking your hands. Grasp gently so as not to injure fleshy parts of plants.
4. Replenish mulch in shrub beds.
5. Propagate several varieties of shrubs by making cuttings.
6. Plant new shrubs and trees when ground is not too wet or frozen.
7. Prune grapevines.
8. Remove faded camellia blooms from plants and ground beneath plants to prevent spread of camellia blight. Apply clean mulch and don't put old mulch and faded blooms in the compost pile.
9. Wait until after spring flowering to prune spring-flowering shrubs. To prune now removes immature flower buds.
10. Don't forget to water newly set plants. Drying winds can be a problem.
11. If heavy snow weighs down branches, take care in removing it. You can snap the branch from the plant. Use a broom to push snow off the plant.
12. Divide and replant daylilies if job is not already completed.
13. Select a groundcover for use beneath trees where grass-growing is a problem.
14. Study garden books and gardening articles as well as seed catalogs to make plans for spring planting.

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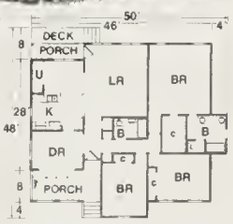

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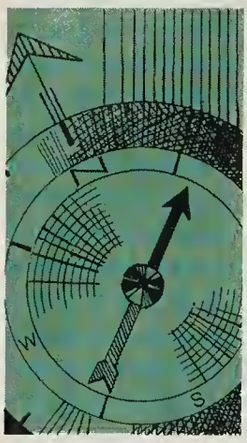

See the "Speaker's Chair" ... Study decorative arts.

Book lists patriots at Moores Creek battle

The battle of Moores Creek in Pender County is the focal point of a new book listing the names of patriots who fought in the 1776 battle.

The "Roster of Patriots in the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge," by Bobby G. Moss, contains the names of 1,600 patriots who participated in the Revolutionary War battle.

The 247-page book will be of interest to genealogists and others who want to know if their ancestors fought in the battle.

Copies of the book are available for sale at the Moores Creek Battlefield Visitor Center for $19.95 plus tax.

Make mail order checks payable to Eastern National Park and Monument Association and mail to Moores Creek National Battlefield, P.O. Box 69, Currie, N.C. 28435. The price when ordering by mail is $22.20 to cover tax and shipping and handling.

A book listing loyalists in the battle will be released later this year.

Moores Creek National Battlefield is located 20 miles northwest of Wilmington on Highway 210 near Currie. For more information, call or write the National Park Service at P.O. Box 69, Currie, N.C. 28435. Phone: (919) 283-5591.

Author to address herb conference in Charlotte

Noted herbalist and author Peter Loewer will be the keynote speaker for the winter conference of the North Carolina Herb Association in Charlotte, Feb. 19 to 21.

Various lectures and workshops are scheduled over the weekend, and participants may choose to attend one, two or three of the days of the conference.

The deadline for registration is Feb. 1.

To register or to obtain more information about the conference, contact NCHA, Route 1, Box 65, Godwin, N.C. 28344.

Old "Speaker's Chair" on tour after restoration

An elegant old chair that survived the 1823 fire in the North Carolina State Capitol has been carefully restored and is on exhibit in Baltimore. The exhibit opens in Charlotte in November.

The chair, one of the few objects to survive the fire, was originally used by Speaker of the Senate Bartlett Yancey of Caswell County from 1823 to 1828. After the fire, its legs were shortened and some of its brass plates were removed.

It may have been used at the governor's palace until 1840, when the present capitol was completed. From 1840 until 1920, it was used at the capitol before being transferred to the State Hall of History for restoration.

The chair eventually was labeled a "speaker's chair," but there was confusion about whether it had been used in the House or the Senate. The post of Speaker of the Senate was abolished in 1867.

Two years ago, the history of the chair was thoroughly researched when the Baltimore Museum of Art asked to use it in an exhibit.

The chair was restored to its original splendor by Leroy Graves of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. The restoration was sponsored by the Woman's Club of Raleigh.

It will be on display at the Baltimore museum until the show moves to the Mint Museum in Charlotte. It will be on view from Nov. 20, 1993 until March 13, 1994.

For more information about the exhibit, write or call the Mint Museum, 2730 Randolph Road, Charlotte, N.C. 28207. Phone: (704) 337-2000.

–photo by Jim Mercer

State capitol historian Raymond Beck (left) and Jeannette Bennett, president of the Woman's Club of Raleigh, unveil the recently restored "Speaker's Chair."

Tryon Palace hosts decorative arts event

Wendell Garrett, vice president of Americana for Sotheby's New York and editor at large of "The Magazine Antiques," will be the keynote speaker at the 25th annual Tryon Palace Decorative Arts Symposium in New Bern, March 20 to 22.

The theme for the silver anniversary event will be "Stimulating the Mind's Eye: Design Sources in the Eighteenth-Century British World."

Other speakers will look behind the artifacts that have come from the 18th century to see what stimulated the artisans in fashioning and decorating their products.

Symposium participants will be treated to a candlelight tour of Tryon Palace, the reconstructed colonial capitol of North Carolina.

The event is co-sponsored by the Continuing Education Division of East Carolina University.

For registration information, contact the Continuing Education Division, ECU, Greenville, N.C. 27858-4353. Phone: (919) 757-6143.

Duke Homestead to host garden workshops

Workshops on herb and heirloom vegetables are slated for Feb. 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Duke Homestead State Historic Site in Durham.

Herb propagation, gardening with heirloom vegetables, and growing and using gourds will be reviewed. Enrollment in these workshops will be limited. The deadline for registration is Feb. 15.

To register or to obtain additional information, contact Edna Lovelace Gaston, Duke Homestead State Historic Site, 2828 Duke Homestead Road, Durham, N.C. 27705. Phone: (919) 477-5498.

Exhibit examines women in American railroading

The role of women in American railroading is portrayed in a new exhibit at the N.C. Transportation Museum in Spencer.

"Women and the American Railroad," a special photographic and interpretive exhibit, will be on display through January.

In more than 75 photos, the exhibit traces the role of women in American railroading from 1855 to the present.

Photographer Shirley Burman of Sacramento, Calif., created the traveling exhibit to point up the contributions of women in railroad development, management and operation.

The show is "only a sample of women's contribution, but I hope it will dispel the myth of railroad development being strictly the accomplishment of men," Burman said.

The photographs show women in several railroad occupations. They include an all-woman track maintenance crew in New York in 1917 and an all-woman crew that cleaned locomotives during World War II—when most men were engaged in the war effort.

A panel of photos showing women in the southeast was added to the exhibit for its Spencer showing.

The exhibit is sponsored by the N.C. Transportation Museum, the Samuel Spencer Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society, the Citizens for Historic Spencer Association and Perceptor Psi and Alpha Lambda chapters of Beta Sigma Phi, Salisbury.

Locomotive washers and supervisor, Bakersfield, Cal., 1943. From the Shirley Burman collection.

The N.C. Transportation Museum, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, is located in the former Southern Railway shop facility in Spencer, and features a variety of exhibits about railroading, automobiles and airplanes.

Admission is free. The museum's hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday 1 to 4 p.m. For details, call the museum in Spencer at (704) 636-2889.

Decorative arts institute set for July

The Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts in Winston-Salem will sponsor the 18th annual graduate Summer Institute entitled "Early Southern History and Decorative Arts" June 20 to July 16.

The program offers an opportunity for the historical study of the decorative arts of the early South. Emphasis this year will be on the material culture of the Backcountry of the South before 1821.

Students, teachers and museum professionals are encouraged to apply. Graduate credit in history will be awarded. Enrollment is limited to 20 participants, and partial fellowships will be available to a limited number of applicants. The deadline for applications is April 20.

For further information and application forms, write to Sally Gant, Director of Education, Summer Institute, Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, P.O. Box 10310, Winston-Salem, N.C. 27108. Phone: (919) 721-7360.

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Here, There and Everywhere

continued from page 29

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Girl Scouts sponsor R.O.B.O.T. in Hickory

The Catawba Valley Area Girl Seout Couneil will sponsor the third annual R.O.B.O.T. day Mareh 27 at Clement Center off Highway 321 N in Hiekory. The day-long event is designed as a math and seienee fair for all ages.

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Families are invited to partieipate in aetivities designed to stimulate ehildren's interest in math and seienee. Hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Advanee tiekets are $3 for Girl Seout members and $4 for general admission. They are available from the eouneil offiee in Hiekory. Tiekets at the door are $4 for Girl Seouts and $5 for all others. Children ages 4 and younger are admitted without eharge.

For tiekets and further information, write to the couneil at 530 Fourth St., S.W., Hiekory, N.C. 28601. Or eall (704) 328-2444 or (toll-free) 800-328-8388.

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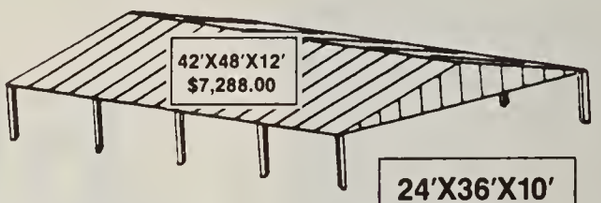

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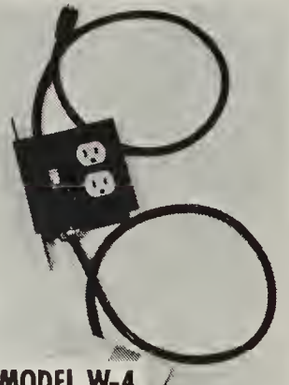

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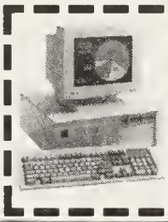

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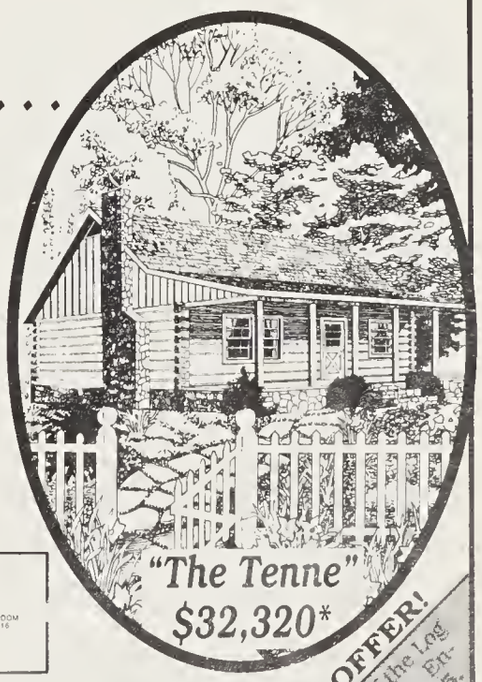

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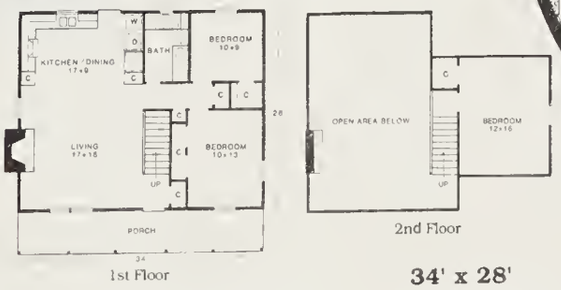

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Journal

by Owen Bishop

New book includes fascinating tales of animal antics ... Words of wisdom to start a new year.

New First Pet deserves a spot in this Who's Who

A recent syndicated cartoon showed Bill Clinton chatting with daughter Chelsea. He says, "Your cat, Socks, surely has gotten a lot of media attention lately. By the way, where is that cat, anyway?"

The second panel shows the cat doing a guest shot on the Larry King talk show.

Indeed, coverage of the Jan. 20 transition of First Pets has given us another example of media overkill. Yet, Socks Clinton and Millie Bush would never have achieved celebrity status if media audiences were basically uninterested in animals.

The truth is that most Americans are pushovers for dogs, cats, gerbils and assorted other pets. And, we routinely line up at zoos just to take a peek at more exotic animals.

Another example of how important animals are to us comes out of Durham, where John Breen has just published the first "Who's Who of Animals." Subtitled, "Biographies of Great American Companions," the 340-page book includes 1,200 brief bios submitted by animal lovers in 50 states and several foreign countries. They paid $5 for each pet profile included. And most of them have already paid $30 for a copy of the hardcover volume. (The going rate is $35 but as contributors they get a discount.)

I wrote about Breen's plans for the book last June, but I expected the finished product to be essentially a collection of adoring odes to the contributors' "wonderful" pets. After reading just the North Carolina entries, I must admit I was wrong. Although some of them are odes, many are fascinating tales of animal antics. Others are touching tributes, reflecting the depth of the writers' attachment to loyal companions.

Let me introduce you to a few of these animals:

• Doc Hamby of Charlotte—This dog is remembered for having defied the odds to take on the Goodyear Blimp.

"Most dogs chase cars and bark at tires. Doc caught the blimp," the owner writes. "It happened near the Charlotte Motor Speedway when the blimp tried to land in our pasture. Doc decided that this thing was too close to his cows. He took off after it and caught the tether rope about five feet off the ground. He grabbed and shook it for all he was worth. The blimp started to rise and he dropped off, but chased and barked after it. Doc retired after that and lived a contented life to age 11. He was half Lab and half Irish Setter."

• Sabrina (Weena) Lewis of Boone—This "sassy" cat "dares anyone to challenge her authority." Her best trick was answering the phone. She'd knock the receiver off the hook when it rang. The funniest "was when she tried to climb a folding clothes rack and it shut on her. Still wild in her old age, she keeps the family in line. Yet, she is loved."

• Casey Andrews of Durham—This chocolate Lab never wants to be left out of family activities. One night the family walked to a neighbor's house to visit. "After a few hours, the

A New Year's toast for 1993: May you have "enough ..."

Looking for a few uplifting words of wisdom to fuel your enthusiasm as you begin the New Year?

Perhaps you'll find them in the following toast, which I first saw in the Iowa rural electric statewide publication last January. The author wasn't identified.

May you have:

- Enough happiness to keep you sweet;
- Enough trials to keep you strong;
- Enough sorrow to keep you human;
- Enough hope to keep you happy;
- Enough failure to keep you humble;
- Enough success to keep you eager;
- Enough friends to give you comfort;
- Enough wealth to meet your needs;
- Enough enthusiasm to look forward;
- Enough faith to banish depression;
- Enough determination to make each day better than yesterday.

doorbell rang several times. It was late and our neighbors could not imagine who could be at the door. When they turned on the porch light, there stood Casey on her hind legs ringing the bell and looking in the window for us."

• Campbell Wright Watkins of Chatham County—This Great Pyrenees/Golden Retriever weighs 96 pounds and is as "broad as a dinner table." One of his tricks is to fold a nylon frisbee in his mouth "to look like he has rubber lips." An obedience course drop-out, he's a "true Gentle Giant."

• Gus of Whispering Pines—This squirrel was adopted when he was the size of a mouse. Two grandparents fed him with a medicine dropper until he was large enough to eat regular food. "He would come when called, had no fear of humans, and did many antics to entertain many people. Children came from miles to see and feed Gus. When he passed away his obituary was in the village paper."

Breen accepted all entries submitted for the book, including two on fictional animals: Garfield and his pal Odie. They were submitted by cartoonist Jim Davis' company, PAWS.

The publisher is planning to issue an expanded edition of the book next fall. This time, you can submit an item on your pet without charge. The deadline is May 31. For an official biography form, write to Breen at P.O. Box 2820, Durham, N.C. 27715.

Maybe Chelsea will submit a bio on Socks, describing his adjustment to life in the White House.

The first edition of "Who's Who of Animals" is not available at most bookstores, but they may be able to order it. You can place orders directly with Breen by sending him a check or money order for $38 per copy, including postage and handling.

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Reader offers to share seeds for a favorite flower

A member of Albemarle Electric Membership Corporation, Hertford, has kindly offered to share seeds for one of her favorite flowers with other magazine readers, on request.

E.M. Smith, who has property in Camden County but resides in Norfolk, wrote, "I have plenty of seeds of the angel trumpet flower that I will be glad to share with readers of *Carolina Country* magazine."

She said the plant is an attractive small shrub that has a lovely white blossom.

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Mailbox

Reader notices father in magazine photo. ... Cookbook item helps non-profit agency.

Father identified in old photo of co-op meeting

Your feature article "Co-ops Found Strength in Unity Through the Statewide Association" (August 1992) was interesting and informative.

My father, C.E. Stevens, was one of the members of the board of directors for Four County EMC. Burgaw. He knew and admired Mr. Bill Crisp, who helped organize the co-ops' association.

As a family, we attended the annual meetings of Four County EMC. I remember the discussion about the struggle of power between the electric companies. He is in the picture of the directors at a meeting in Wilson. Are prints of the picture available?

Carolina Country is an excellent publication.

Blanche S. Long
Route 1, Council

As a courtesy to Mrs. Long and other readers who might have recognized friends or relatives in the photo, we have arranged to offer prints at cost. An 8-by-10 glossy print is available for $10. Send your check or money order made out to Carolina Country. *Mail to Michael Gery,* Carolina Country, *P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, N.C. 27611.*

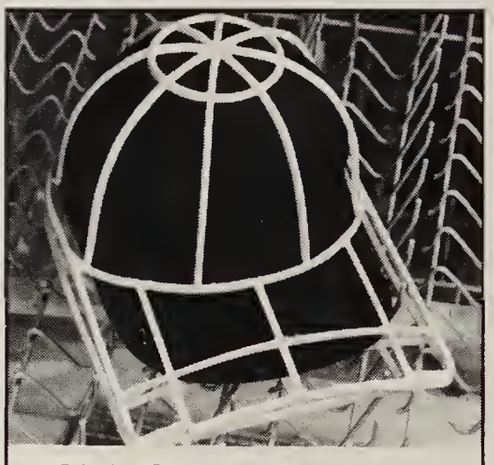
Magazine notice aids fund-raising project

I wanted to update you on sales of the Watauga County Hunger Coalition cookbook. Since you featured "Flavors of the Blue Ridge" in the October issue, we've received approximately 100 orders. Our production costs were covered by revenues from local sales, so orders received from your readers represent a profit of $1,000. And orders are still coming in!

I can't tell you how much this means to our organization. We are constantly pressured to raise money to allow us to meet our mission of providing emergency food and medicine to the neediest families in our area. Thank you for helping us meet that mission.

Speed Hallman
Boone

Hallman is vice chair of the Watauga County Hunger Coalition. Copies of the cookbook are still available for $12 each, including postage and handling. Send orders to the Watauga County Hunger Coalition Cookbook Fund, P.O. Box 70 DTS, Boone, N.C. 28607.



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You also become part of a powerful new energy, flowing strong in 95 counties across our state. Energy that's working to create jobs, build businesses and improve lives, lighting the way for a future that's brighter than ever.

Member-ownership. For more than 1.6 million people, it's what turns simple electricity into the energy of cooperation—the energy to get things done.

CAROLINA Electric Cooperatives℠

Energy To Get Things Done℠

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